The Gold Cadillac

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| Reading Check   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **a.** | Why doesn’t ’lois’s mother like the new Cadillac? | | **b.** | How does the rest of the family feel about the car? | | **c.** | Why do the uncles think that driving the Cadillac to the South is a bad idea? | | **d.** | What do the police accuse ’lois’s father of? | | **e.** | At the end of the story, why does ’lois’s father sell the Cadillac? | |

First Thoughts

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| **1.** | If you were ’lois’s father, would you sell the car? Why or why not? |

Thinking Critically

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| **2.** | What do you think the gold Cadillac stands for in the eyes of Wilbert and his neighbors? |
| **3.** | How can you tell that ’lois’s parents love each other even though they disagree about the car? |
| **4.** | How do you think the journey south changes ’lois? How does her father change? |
| **5.** | Go back to the **predictions** you made as you read. At which points did you adjust your predictions? |
| **6.** | ’Lois wonders if her family is poor. What does her father mean when he says they may be “the richest folks in the world”? |
| **7.** | In one or two words, state what you think the subject of this story is. Then, in a complete sentence, state what you see as the story’s **theme.** Find at least one passage in the story that supports the theme. |

Extending Interpretations

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| **8.** | In the 1950s, a Cadillac was a sign of wealth and status. What qualifies as a status symbol today? Why? |
| **9.** | Do you think what happened to ’lois’s father in the 1950s could happen in the United States today? Why or why not? |